Doubling Line between Guntur and Nallapadu

2963. DR. YELAMANCHILISHIVAJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incoming and outgoing trains from Guntur in Southern Central Railway are detained for want of a double line between Guntur and Nallapadu;

(b) if so, what is the frequency of such delays;

(c) how many trains are delayed everyday due to this;

(d) what is the cost of doubling this line;

(e) whether there is any proposal to take up this work expeditiously; and

(f) if so, what is the target date fixed to complete the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On an average 10 trains per day (9 passenger carrying and 1 goods trains) are detained.

(d) Rs. 5 crores.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Final Cost of rail bridge across Thane Creek, Bombay

2964. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final cost of the railway bridge constructed across Thane Creek in Bombay for the Metropolitan Railway Transport project exceeded the originally estimated cost and the tendered cost;

(b) whether additional amount over and above the originally tendered cost for the said bridge were paid to the contractors;

(c) whether the same contractors were assured of contracts for bridge on the Konkan Railway segment in Goa by the concerned railway authorities at that time;

(d) whether the same contractors who constructed the railway bridge across Thane Creek in Bombay have been awarded contracts for three bridges in the Goa segment of Konkan Railway Project; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the same contractors conducted a survey of the sites for railway bridge across the Mandovi and Zuari Rivers in Goa for the Konkan Railway project in 1990, even before the final alignment of the Konkan Railway line within Goa was finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Construction of railway bridge

2965. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Defence has issued directives not to construct railway bridges within 400 yards to the existing bridges;

(b) if so, what is the distance between the utilising Zuari Bridge in Goa on the National Highway and the proposed Konkan Railway Bridge on the same river; and

(c) in case it is less than 400 yards then why this strategic direction from the Defence Ministry are violated and what action is being contemplated on the erring K.R.C. Officials for this gross violation of the direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir.